

Sincock, Jennifer

From: Garvin, Shawn
Sent: Friday, February 19, 2016 12:34 PM
To: Quigley, John
Subject: RE: Bay

John – Yes, I think it would be beneficial for us to talk. I also think we need to get in the room with our folks and figure out what the issues are and how we resolve them.

Thanks – Shawn

From: Quigley, John [mailto:jquigley@pa.gov]
Sent: Thursday, February 18, 2016 2:56 PM
To: Garvin, Shawn
Cc: Quigley, John
Subject: Bay
Importance: High

Hi, Shawn.

It seems like the ag community – and folks at EPA – have their hair on fire about PA DEP's current agricultural "survey" and what may or may not count in the Bay model. This is threatening to undermine our self-reporting effort. Let me offer some clarity. We have tried to do this with EPA at a staff level, but my sense is it's not getting through for some reason.

First, the partners that assisted Penn State in developing this instrument (PennAg Industries, PA Farm Bureau, PA Association of Conservation Districts, PA Farmers Union, PA Association of Sustainable Agriculture, Professional Dairy Managers of PA, PA Department of Agriculture, PA State Conservation Commission and DEP) recognized that at least some of the information collected as part of the Pennsylvania effort would not be reported to the Bay Model. The communication of this may not be particularly clear, as it is difficult to explain in a pamphlet or mailer.

The eight page instrument includes questions on some BMPs that are collected and input into the Bay model via other mechanisms or that may be difficult to collect other ways. We wanted to collect this information to try to confirm (or not) existing claims about the volume of BMPs that are actually on the ground. We were also concerned that not including certain BMPs in the instrument would raise even more questions and create confusion about what BMPs are considered important.

It's also important to note that this is not a survey, but a voluntary self-reporting effort. All who wish to submit data can do so. There is no pre-determined sample size and no established response percentage necessary to establish a statistically valid result.

So, it's not about the Bay model. It's about giving us a clearer picture of what to do next.

Happy to discuss further.

John

John Quigley | Secretary
Department of Environmental Protection
Rachel Carson State Office Building
400 Market Street | Harrisburg, PA 17101

Phone: 717.787.2814 | Fax: 717.705.4980
www.dep.pa.gov

PRIVILEGED AND CONFIDENTIAL COMMUNICATION

The information transmitted is intended only for the person or entity to whom it is addressed and may contain confidential and/or privileged material. Any use of this information other than by the intended recipient is prohibited. If you receive this message in error, please send a reply e-mail to the sender and delete the material from any and all computers. Unintended transmissions shall not constitute waiver of the attorney-client or any other privilege.